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The OIB

The Ohio Independent Baptist

The Newsletter of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

Vol. 70 No. 2

Spring 1997

Retreat Brings Vision Renewal

by Pastor Joel Harriman



The OARBC Church Planting Task Team conducted its fourth annual OARBC Church Planting Prayer Retreat at the Comfort Inn North, Columbus, on April 14-15. Thirty-four men and women burdened for church planting in Ohio attended the sessions. Many pastors came, as well as church planting missionaries and representatives from most of our Regular Baptist mission agencies.

Goals for the retreat included: 1) gaining a renewed vision for reaching Ohio; 2) increasing our passion to reach the lost of Ohio; 3) knowing the power and presence of God



through the priority of prayer; and 4) change! As participants evaluated the retreat they indicated that progress was made toward those goals.

On Monday afternoon, Dr. Howard Bixby, dean of Baptist Bible Seminary, presented "Project Jerusalem," a strategy which involves pastors, local churches, missions and Baptist Bible Seminary working together to meet the great need of church planting in the United States. The strategy includes opportunities for



seminary students to be involved in church planting internships. While supervised by teachers and experienced church planters, these students would actually be planting churches.

Rich McGhee, church planting pastor at Bethesda Baptist Church, Brownsburg, Indiana, Fred Crown, retired pastor/church planter and Baptist Church Planter Jim Spellman, specialist in ministry to the deaf, gave testimonies of their own church

In This Issue

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- Greg Davies announces Talents for Christ winners. page 8

planting experiences. They spoke of how God has worked and blessed in those efforts.

Dr. Gerald Webber, president of Continental Baptist Missions, shared from

Acts 13:1-4 the significance of the local church in identifying, training and sending church planting missionaries.

Comments from the participants include the following: "I came away with an urgency that something must be done." "I have a renewed vision of the need and how a local church can help."

Next year's Church Planting Prayer Retreat is scheduled for April 20-21. Put it on your calendar now so you won't miss it.



30 pastors, laymen and women recently completed the Biblical Counseling course at Clearcreek Chapel, Springboro. Pastor John Street notes that 2 accredited seminaries offer D Min. credit for this course. For more information, contact John Street, at 937-885-2143 or E-Mail at jstreet@ipcomp.com

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State Representative Larry Fetzer

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Having An Impact On Ohio



State Representative
Larry Fetzer

As announced in the last issue of the OIB, the OARBC is subject to a lawsuit resulting from a swimming pool accident to a camper at Camp Patmos three years ago. The trial date had been set for April 24. The plaintiff in the case has requested and been granted an extension of at least three months. The attorneys on both sides have now agreed to submit to mediation in order to reach an out-of-court settlement. The mediation is

not binding unless agreed to by both sides. We would ask all our people to be praying urgently for all involved.

Please remember specifically the girl and her family, the council of Twelve and your state representative, the Camp Patmos director and trustees, the attorneys, as well as the ministries of all of our OARBC camps. Our concern is that we be honoring to God in all we do.

Your state rep is now back to a full schedule. I do have dates open this summer and fall. Please contact me if I can be of help to you. You can reach me at 614-523-3666.

Larry Fetzer

Grand Rapids To Host '97 GARBC Conference

Changeless Truth for Changing Times is the theme of the 1997 General Association of Regular Baptist Churches conference, to be held June 21-25 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. More than 25 stimulating workshops have been planned, from "Proper Interpretation and Dynamic Preaching: Can They Coexist?" to "Ministry in a Multicultural World" to "Counseling Those with Homosexual Tendencies." Also offered is a 5-hour continuing education seminar which can be taken for seminary credit.

In eleven challenging general sessions, men of God including Harry Ambacher, James Burns, John Greening, James Grier, Eddie Hawkins and Donald Morgan will present messages

from the Word of God. Day Camp For Kids and YouthFest '97 offer an exciting week for your children and teens.

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Grades 1-2; 3-4; 5-6; Teen/Adult

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Center in Baguio City,
Philippines.

Cedarville College News

The College will host its annual Memorial Day chapel service on May 26 at 11 a.m. in the Dixon Ministry Center. The public is welcome to attend this patriotic program of music and drama in which we will honor current and former members of the armed forces. Armed services members are encouraged to wear their uniforms for this special occasion.

On June 7, the College will graduate approximately 550 seniors during the 101st Commencement, the first to be held in the Dixon Ministry Center. This will be the largest graduating class in the history of the school.

The College will host five Summer Previews for high school students, each featuring a campus visit and a trip to Kings Island amusement park. The dates for the previews are June 26-28, July 10-12, July 24-26, July 31-August 2, and August 14-16. For more information, call 1-800-CEDARVILLE.

Cedarville College has planned a variety of sports camps for this summer. The camps are as follows: Boys Basketball Day Camp (ages 5-9), June 9-13; Girls Basketball

Team Camp (high school teams), June 16-18; Boys Basketball Team Camp (high school teams), June 19-21; Girls Basketball camp (grades 7-12), June 23-27; Boys Cross Country Camp (grades 9-12), June 30-July 4; Boys Soccer Camp (grades 7-12), July 7-11; Boys and Girls Soccer Day Camp (grades 4-6), July 7-11; Boys Basketball Camp (grades 5-12), July 14-18; Father/Son Basketball Camp (age 10 and above), July 18-19; Girls Cross Country Camp (grades 9-12), July 21-25; and Girls Volleyball Camp (grades 7-12), July 21-25. For more information, call 937-766-7755.

Over 240 members of the Cedarville College family are participating in missionary endeavors around the world between December 1996 and September 1997. This number includes the 134 students, faculty, and staff who will serve this summer in Australia, China, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Jamaica, the Philippines, Romania, South Africa, Slovakia, Scotland, Thailand, Togo, and the states of Alaska and New Mexico.

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HATS OFF to Chrysler Corporation for withdrawing its commercials from TV's *Ellen*. Chrysler is asking for phone calls to indicate support for their corporate decision. Call 1-800-992-1997 to thank them.

Serving Ohio

State Representative Larry Fetzer
884 Knebworth Ct.
Westerville, OH 43081
614-523-3666

Across the State



Pastor David & Crystal Mullins

Smithville

Pleasant Hill Baptist has called David Mullins as assistant pastor. His primary ministry will be youth and Christian education along with general pastoral duties to assist Senior Pastor Stephen Olsen.

Mullins graduated from Cedarville College in 1996 and was married to his wife, Crystal, in September. He formerly served as administrative intern at Skyview Baptist Ranch, Millersburg.



Emmanuel Baptist Church

Marysville

Missionary pastor Jim Ruck of **Emmanuel Baptist** writes, "We continue to thank God for His blessings. We started AWANA with 28 in September and are now in the high 80s. Several new families are coming because of AWANA. Since moving into our new building in June we have seen 19 saved and 16 new members. We averaged 81 in the morning service in March!"

Rootstown

The missions committee at **New Milford Baptist** has set a goal of \$42,000 for 1997, allowing the church to add several missionaries and increase giving to several currently supported. This is an increase of \$6,000 over last year.

Three teens from the church are planning summer missions trips. One will work on a construction team in Italy, spending evenings with a puppet team; and two are headed to Chile to assist missionaries with children's programming.

Dick Sumner is senior pastor at New Milford.

Kenton

Members and guests of the **Faith Baptist Church** of Kenton enjoyed a dinner concert with the Cedarville College Swordbearers, Saturday evening, March 8. The eleven college students shared favorite verses of scripture, testimonies and a variety of music including contemporary selections, hymn arrangements and traditional gospel favorites. The church's social committee coordinated publicity, meal preparation and decorating around the theme, "Life Is A Symphony."

Dennis Burns is pastor at Faith Baptist.

Mount Vernon

Recently **Faith Baptist's** senior highers participated in a 30-Hour Famine, raising approximately \$1,000 for World Vision. World Vision is a Christian non-profit relief and development organization meeting the needs of children, families and communities all over the world. Its goal is to provide food, education and the Gospel.

The teens also attended "Facing The Challenge," a Teen Life conference held at Grace Baptist Church in Westerville.

Merlyn Jones is senior pastor at Faith Baptist.



Pastor Kevin and Tania Conner



L to R, Pastor Vernon and Mrs. Jones, Pastor Kenneth Spink

Berea

In October of 1996, **Berea Baptist Church** called Kevin W. Conner to serve as youth pastor. Kevin is a 1995 graduate of Liberty University, where he met his wife, Tania. Before coming to Berea, Kevin was on the staff at Maranatha Christian School in Columbus. A welcome reception was held for the Conners, and a food shower helped fill their cupboards. Many of the teens helped Kevin and Tania move into their new home.

On Sunday evening, February 9, Berea held a retirement reception in honor of Pastor Vernon Jones, who concluded his ministry as assistant pastor on that day. He had served in that position since October, 1993. Pastor Kenneth Spink presented a certificate of appreciation to Pastor and Mrs. Jones and an offering was taken for them. The congregation at Berea Baptist feels they have been enriched by the Jones presence and service.



Send all contributions and correspondence regarding finances to the OARBC bookkeeper.
Write: OARBC, c/o Phil Miller
1750 Flinthill Dr.
Columbus OH 43223
Call 614-871-5723 or
FAX 614-871-7229

OIB news deadline
Summer issue
July 5

Akron

On March 16, the **First Baptist Church of Green** held an End of Winter Soup Smorgasbord following the evening service. Everyone brought their favorite homemade soup. Some brought corn bread and muffins as well.

On Good Friday, the church held a service which emphasized the themes of "Remembrance," "Worship and Praise," "Proclamation," and "Victory."

April 6 was "Shepherds Day," with Rev. and Mrs. William Stevens from the Shepherds Home sharing the mission of the ministry. Combined Sunday school classes viewed the Shepherds video and Rev. Stevens spoke on "God's Will for the Mentally Disabled."

David Robertson is pastor at First Baptist.

Dayton

On April 13, the Missions Committee of **Washington Heights Baptist** set apart a recently remodeled house on the church's property as a missionary home. The committee thought it appropriate to dedicate this home in honor of Larry and Pat Fetzer for their many years of ministry at the church. A plaque presented to Larry, and to be hung in the foyer of the home reads: "In recognition of visionary leadership in the cause of world evangelism by Larry and Pat Fetzer during 21 years of faithful service as senior pastor of Washington Heights Baptist Church, this home is set apart to God's Glory and named **Fetzer House**, a residence for missionary families on temporary assignment in the United States. By Action of the Church, April 13, 1997."

David Kisner is senior pastor at Washington Heights.

Huber Heights

On April 11-13, **Blessed Hope Baptist** enjoyed special meetings on prayer with Rev. Carl Stephenson. Doug Tallman, pastor at Blessed Hope, notes that Stephenson is available for a "challenging, uplifting and encouraging pulpit ministry," and can be reached at 937-254-0512.

Campus Bible Fellowship students from Wright State University and Word of Life teens teamed up in late March for a tract blitz and to distribute flyers for the meetings.

Salem

March 16-19 **Calvary Baptist** held its annual missionary conference. Bringing messages were the Robert Kilko family and Everett and Barb Eash. The Kilkos are missionaries to the Jewish people in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Eashes are working at the Faith Community Center in Cleveland.

On April 13 the church hosted the One Way Tour, a teen music and drama group from Bible Baptist, Madison.

Fred Robb is pastor at Calvary Baptist.

Cincinnati

Recently **Norwood Baptist** enjoyed five days of blessing under the ministry of Dr. Bill Fusco. April's activities include the Kingsmen Quartet from Cedarville College and, on Mother's Day, the Dan Bergen Musical Family. Max Tucker is pastor at Norwood Baptist.



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327 East Drive, Dayton, OH 45419

Dear Forever Friends,



Women who move into our state, and those who leave and live elsewhere, all say the same thing—"You women in Ohio have a very special fellowship. It's not like this

everywhere." They have experienced this and know it to be true.

Those of us who attend area fellowship meetings, Ohio Women's Missionary Union rallies, and fall retreats also know it's true. We've experienced it. God truly has knitted our hearts together in a special band of love as we have "Joined Hands for Missions." We know one another, we're sisters in Christ, and we greet each other with the smiles and hugs reserved for family.

It's a joy both to evidence and experience this type of love. A joy to us...and to our Lord. It was what He wanted, part of the joy that was set before Him as He endured the cross, part of the way He planned for the unsaved to know we were His disciples, part of the "abundant life" He desired for us to have here on earth.

This past year God drew us even closer together as we asked Him to

"Strengthen Our Hands" to help meet the security needs for Faith Baptist Community Center. As we prayed, worked and gave our quarters to meet the ambitious goal, the Lord not only strengthened our hands, He also strengthened our love for Him and one another.

Those who were at the OWMU meeting in Westerville evidenced and experienced that love as together we worshipped and praised our Lord for all He did in and through us this past year.

Yes, the goal of \$10,000 was reached and surpassed, but our work is not finished. We must continue working, praying and supporting the ministry of Faith Baptist Community Center. Souls need to hear about Jesus Christ in the inner city of Cleveland.

And, we must expand our work and now reach out and help ABWE's Student Center ministry in Baguio City, Philippines. Nearly 80,000 students attend ten major colleges, universities and technical schools in the Northern Luzon city of Baguio. The Student Center functions as an evangelistic outreach to those students and as a resource center for pastors, Christian workers and churches.

We ladies of Ohio will pray and give to provide ministry-enhancing items such as Bibles, Bible study books, concordances, evangelism and discipleship materials, audiovisual equipment, tables, chairs, bookcases, educational software and videos, games and athletic equipment.

Luke 2:52 tells us that Jesus continually increased in wisdom, stature, and favor with both God and men. ABWE's Student Center in Baguio City encourages young people to increase, or grow, in these areas as well. The Center endeavors to stimulate growth mentally, physically, socially and spiritually.

That will also be our theme and prayer this year—that we will be "Increasing in Christ" as we help our Filipino friends, and as we reach and re-ignite the hearts of other women here in Ohio to serve Jesus Christ and missions and to experience for themselves the blessings of our very special fellowship.

In His Love,
Sue

OWMU Officers 1997-98

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Columbus OH 43223
614-875-4128

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DATES TO REMEMBER

OWMU Fall Rally

October 28, 1997
Calvary Baptist Church
1140 E. Rush Avenue
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Scioto Hills Retreat

September 4-6

Speakers: Dr. Cheryl Fawcett
Miss Nancy Knopf

Theme: "Sharing Our Precious Gifts"

Total Cost: \$45 for cabin

\$50 for lodge (double)

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Baptist of Lima

Skyview Ranch Retreat

September 18-20

Speaker: Debbie Seymour,

Missionary to Chad, Africa

Theme: "Love Bears All Things"

Cost: \$40

Registration Deadline:

September 4

Registrar: Beth Workman

9170 Olga Ave.

Streetsboro, OH 44241

Host Churches:

Northfield Baptist,

Faith Baptist of Streetsboro,

First Baptist of Twinsburg

Atwood Lodge Retreat

November 6-7

Host Church: Brown Street

Baptist of Akron

Project Total for
Faith Baptist
Community Center

\$10,859.85

as of April 20, 1997

Keeping Up With Our Camps

Camp Patmos



It's a long time 'til next summer.

There he sits, suitcases and sleeping bags all around him. Why does he look so sad? Because his week at Patmos is nearly over. Soon a truck will come to take the luggage and then a tram will move the campers to the ferry boat for

their trip across the lake to Part Clinton.

However, hopefully, he will sign up for another week for the summer of '97 at Camp Patmos. He will be pleasantly surprised at the improvements. The cabins have been vinyl-sided, and there's new plywood inside. They are more comfortable, too, with a large exhaust fan in every attic.

Two key people that make each young person's week a great time are the summer director, Russ Clark, and the program director, Ken Mantle. Both men have years of camp experience and lots of ideas that will make each young person's week a never-to-be-forgotten fun week, with eternal decisions that may well change the direction of a camper's life.

There is room for you at Patmos this summer. Get your registration off to Mrs. Darlene Morgan, P.O. Box 126, Mogadore, OH 44260. Do it today!

Skyview Ranch

7241 T.R. 319
Millersburg, OH 44654
330-674-7511 FAX 330-674-4606
E-mail SVRanch@AOL.com

"Unleash the Power," Acts 1:8, is the summer theme at the Ranch. Unleashing the power of the Holy Spirit to do the work of Christ will be our focus. Based on the Book of Acts, we will be guiding Ranchers through an acrostic dealing with necessary elements of the Christian life to unleash God's power in our lives. Our staff is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to teach these truths through our chapels, Bible studies and spiritual life program.

Look What's Coming!

New adventures are coming to our teen programs this summer. Junior and Senior high campers can expect opportunities to conquer such adventures as the Whale Watch, Wild Woosy, the Port Hole and our new feature challenge, the Bouldering Wall. Each event is an obstacle with a challenge to be overcome as a cabin group or by an individual with group assistance. These tasks will become a

practical laboratory for Christian living as we teach biblical lessons of faith, communication, conflict resolution, serving others and other practical life applications.

A new petting farm will allow visitors a personal up-close experience. For our typical urban and suburban Rancher, this will be another great new opportunity to teach lessons for Christian living. This summer Ranchers will notice many other improvements. The girls restroom has been remodeled. The swimming pool area is receiving a face lift, too. Many thank you's to the more than 100 volunteers who gave their time to the Ranch this winter and spring.

Scioto Hills

1009 Martin Rd.
Wheelersburg, OH 45694-8462
614-778-2273 FAX 614-778-3279
E-mail scioto.hills@svs.org

Pray, with thanksgiving, for Scioto Hills Camp and its outreach.

1. Thank God for bringing campers to repentance and saving faith in Jesus Christ.



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Charles Monroe, Ohio Director

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2. Thank God for His protective care of campers, staff and volunteers.
3. Thank God for our programs to accomplish His own purpose. Please pray specifically for each week:

Jr Hi	June 16-21	Fred Hand
Junior	June 23-28	Darrell Schrock
Junior	June 30-July 5	Joseph Esarey
Sr Hi	July 7-12	Chad Coe
Jr Hi	July 14-19	Larry Nocella
Junior	July 21-26	Gary Bragg
Junior	July 28-Aug 2	Cheryl Fawcett
Family	Aug 4-9	Alvis Pollard

There is room in all weeks except June 23-28.

4. Thank God for providing the new property, asking that He provide the remaining funds.
5. Thank God for providing volunteers to help complete projects. Latest projects were the 24x40 addition to the shop, a new deck at Edwards' home, the 34x64 "Boulder" building which will provide space for rainy day initiative activities. The next project is a 2" water line to a storage distribution station.
6. Thank God that He will show you how you can be involved by praying, by participating in programs, by giving, and by volunteering.

Talents For Christ Winners Named

Reported by Talents For Christ Chairman, Pastor Greg Davies,
Calvary Baptist Church, Sandusky

Talents For Christ is an opportunity to train young people to use their God-given talents effectively for the furtherance of God's kingdom. This year's competition saw 62 teens register for 11 categories. We were up 10 registrants over last year. Twenty-six judges gave of their time and ability to fill out adjudication sheets for participants. In addition to the 62 teens competing for scholarships, 20 others competed in the individual category. In this category any teen 7th grade and up is judged for the purpose of experience. It gives them a

Bible Knowledge: 1st, Kaleb Brasee, Camden Baptist Church, Oberlin; 2nd, Chad Helmick, Abbe Road Baptist Church, Elyria

Writing: 1st, Tina Hetsler, Faith Baptist Church, Elyria; 2nd, John Browning, Calvary Baptist Church, Lancaster

Female Public Speaking: 1st, Julia Farlow, Grace Baptist Church, Cedarville; 2nd, Liz Duffey, Grace Baptist Church, Troy

Male Public Speaking: 1st, David Henderson, Grace Baptist Church, Cedarville; 2nd, Michael Lowstetter, Grace Baptist Church, Cedarville

Piano: 1st, Willa Lowery, Fostoria Baptist Church, Fostoria; 2nd, Rebecca Chapman, Fostoria Baptist Church, Fostoria

taste of what TFC competition is all about. Along with those two groups we had 10 instrumental and vocal ensembles. What a blessing it was for me to be involved in this year's TFC.

Last year's first place winners from Ohio competed in the national competition and walked away as national winners. We were very proud of them.

I would urge all who read this to promote TFC among their teens for next year. It is a program with some very real benefits.

Visualized Bible Teaching:

1st, Bethanne Starett, Camden Baptist Church, Oberlin

Female Voice: 1st, Jennifer Drexel, First Baptist Church, Galion; 2nd, Lois Horner, First Baptist Church, Elyria

Male Voice: 1st, David Bates, Bible Baptist Church, Madison

Woodwinds: 1st, Beth Cooley, Grace Baptist Church, Cedarville; 2nd, Cindy Armstrong, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Smithville

Brass: 1st, Stephen Moseley, Grace Baptist Church, Lima; 2nd, Dan Miner, Fellowship Baptist Church, Wadsworth

Strings: 1st, Nicholas Carroll, First Baptist Church, Elyria; 2nd, Jared Fairchild, Faith Baptist Church, Amherst

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